

ELM GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
945 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122
Phone: 262-797-2970 Website: www.egl.org
Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor
Rev. Joshua D. Teggatz, Associate Pastor**



NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, July 26 – 9:00 a.m.

DS 4

EGLC Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated here in the glad confidence that those who commune actually eat and drink the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Only those communicants who believe this and who repent of their sins receive forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Those who do not believe this or who do not repent of their sins will commune to their harm. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the specific teachings of the faith which is confessed in this congregation, those who are not in agreement with this understanding of the Lord's Supper, or who belong to a religious community that is not in Altar & Pulpit Fellowship with The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are requested to consult with the presiding minister before communing.

EGL WHY Statement: "God has established EGL to proclaim Christ, receiving and sharing His gifts in Word and Sacrament."

Children in Worship

"Let the little children come to me." Jesus delights in faithful parents bringing their children to hear His Word. EGL gladly joins Christ in that joy! Thank you for bringing your children with you to worship! You are welcome to sit wherever you want. While some find it best to sit in the back with their children, for easy access to the cry room, others find their children are better behaved when sitting near the front so that they can see what is happening in the chancel. If your child needs a moment to settle down, ask an usher to point you to the nursery or cry room. But please bring your child back soon so that he or she can be with us as we receive Christ's gifts and as we collectively raise our voice in prayer and song. Be sure to sing the hymns and join the liturgy's responses so that your child learns from you what should be done in church. If you are without children, encourage parents with little ones and offer assistance as needed.



Scan the QR code (left) to give online to Elm Grove Lutheran Church, or visit egl.org/give.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude **Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy – Jan O Bender**

Hymn of Invocation **590 Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy**

Holy Baptism **pp. 268-271**

Divine Service 4 **pp. 203-212**

Introit **Psalm 105:2–6; antiphon: v. 1**

P Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

C make known his deeds among the peoples!

P Sing to him, sing praises to him;

C tell of all his wondrous works!

P Glory in his holy name;

C let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

P Seek the LORD and his strength;

C seek his presence continually!

P Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

C This miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

P O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

C children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

**All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

C make known his deeds among the peoples!

Old Testament Reading **Deuteronomy 7:6–9**

⁶“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

Gradual

P Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

P For from him and through him and to him are all things.

C To him be glory forever. Amen.

Epistle

Romans 8:28–39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the daylong; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:44–52

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Hymn of the Day

644 The Church's One Foundation

Sermon

"Seen" (Matthew 13:44-46)

Prayer of the Church

Offering

The Church's One Foundation – Flor Peeters

To give to Elm Grove Lutheran Church, scan the QR code (inside the front cover)
to go to our online giving site.

(Those who are not communing may place their cards in the offering plate.)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface - Agnus Dei

pp. 208-211

Hymns During Distribution

724 If God Himself Be for Me
669 Come, We that Love the Lord
714 Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode

Nunc Dimittis - Benediction

pp. 211-212

Closing Hymn

651 I Love Your Kingdom Lord

Postlude

The Church's One Foundation – Robert A. Hobby

Acknowledgments

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ALTAR PARAMETERS: The green paraments of the Pentecost season prompt us to remember that our life in Christ is one of growth, as branches connected to the Vine produce good fruit.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Jim and Diane Olson in celebration of their 48th wedding anniversary.

Participants

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Organist
Elder
Chancel Assistant
Usher Team

Pastor Teggatz
Pastor Skovgaard
Richard C. Ewert
Eric Thompson
Dan Berry

Sharon Boudro, Kirk Midtbo, Diane Olson, Jim Olson, John Schaefer

SERVING NEXT WEEK **THURSDAY, JULY 30 (6:30 P.M.)**

ELDER: John Wolck

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Kirk Midtbo

USHER TEAM 1: Pam Ganswindt, Andrea Kysely, Steve Nelson, Shelly Skovgaard, Cathy Tuttrup, Matt Zientek, Mikayla Zientek

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 (9:00 A.M.)

ELDER: Jason Krueger

CHANCEL ASSISTANT: Doug Grelk

USHER TEAM 2: Chase, Hipke, Connor Hipke, Rob Hipke, Thomas Hipke, Tyler Hipke, Carter Klein, Ian Klein, Michael Klein, Ann Wilcox, Christine Wilcox

EGL in the Word (Ninth Sunday After Pentecost)

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 7:6-9

The book of Deuteronomy recaps much of what we hear in the second half of Exodus, spelling out who God's people are to be and why they are to be different from the other nations. In this case, as God's people enter the Promised Land, they are to purge the land of all who worship false gods (and purge the false gods, too!). Why? So that they might live out their calling as God's treasured possession. However, this calling didn't come because of their inherent worth or size (7:7-9) but because God is a faithful and loving God who keeps His promises. He is a God who saves the unworthy and keeps promises even to those who will betray their promises to Him time and time again. This relentless love and mercy points us to our gospel reading, where it is fully and unconditionally realized in Christ.

Epistle Reading: Romans 8:28-39

This weekend, we round out our multi-week receiving of Romans 8, a chapter that summarizes everything that's come before in the book of Romans. What does it mean that we've fallen short in our sins and have now been justified as a gift, having peace with God? It means we have no condemnation. It means our suffering isn't worth comparing with the glory to be revealed to us. It means the Spirit is given to us to intercede when we groan in this life. And here, the promises abound. All things work for our ultimate good (8:28). We are predestined, called, justified, and will be glorified (8:30). No one can succeed against or condemn us (8:31-34). And, no one can separate us from this God of covenant, unfailing love because of the merits of Christ (8:35-39). In short, everything has changed, in this world and the next, because of Christ.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:44-52

This weekend, we also round out our multi-week receiving of Jesus' parables in Matthew 13 with three final parables (and an important epilogue). The first two parables (13:44-46) mirror each other, focusing on the unconditional grace of Christ in His mission to save sinners, sacrificing everything to do so "out of joy" for His creation. The last parable (13:47-50) largely mirrors our parable of the wheat and the weeds from last weekend, using alternate imagery of fish being gathered with a dragnet. The pericope ends with one final image that Jesus applies to his disciples and, by extension, to us. We who are discipled/trained for God's kingdom bring out what is old and new, pointing others to how it finds its center in the kingdom of God and that kingdom's king, Jesus Christ. This closing epilogue stands as an encouragement for us to stay steeped in the Scriptures, Old and New Testaments, as both point us to Christ.

Questions for Reflection This Week

Monday: Recall a time where you remember feeling “seen” by someone else. What was it about their treatment of you that made you feel seen?

Tuesday: We often struggle with our value and worth, especially when we sin/fall short or are judged and excluded by others around us. How does God see us? Read Revelation 7:14 to find out.

Wednesday: Oftentimes in Jesus’ parables, the main actor (representing God/Jesus) doesn’t fit our categories and worldly expectations. He sows seed recklessly, waits for the harvest, and takes what we may see as a risky investment for a treasure/pearl. And that’s the point! God’s kingdom is not of this world. For another parable signifying the cost of claiming us, read Matthew 21:33-46.

Thursday: Think of someone in your life that needs to be “seen” right now (e.g., a classmate, coworker, friend, neighbor, family member). What is one way you can see them more clearly this coming week? Try to think of a concrete action (in-person if possible).

Friday: What was your favorite parable we looked at in Matthew 13? Why? Consider using this as a family table discussion at a meal today.

Additional Scripture Passages in This Week’s Sermon:

- John 3:16- “For God so loved the world...”
- Luke 19:10- “...to seek and to save the lost.”
- Matthew 20:28- “I came not to be served but to serve...”
- Hebrews 12:2- “...who for the joy that was set before him...”

ELM GROVE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH CALENDAR/NEWSLETTER
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 26, 2026 – Volume 78, Number 7.4

S 9:00 a.m. Divine Service
10:30 a.m. Bible Study
3:30 p.m. Pickleball (Gym)
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting (FH)
M Have a wonderful day!
T 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (228)
10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study (BAAC)
W 1:00 p.m. Sheepshead (BAAC)
7:00 p.m. Elders (228)
Th 6:30 p.m. Divine Service
F Office Closed



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (call first)

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE: There were **154** people that attended services last week in person and **62** households streamed the services for a total of **216**. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

GIVING UPDATE: There's good news and bad news. Shortly after I returned from South Africa this past March I appealed to your Christian stewardship, mentioning that we had fallen behind in our anticipated offerings. You responded promptly and generously, making up the difference (and then some!) by the end of April, so that by the time we went into the May 17 Voters Assembly we could legitimately say that we had done what we had promised to do together over the past fiscal year. That's the good news. The bad news is that since that point in time offerings have dropped off. The summer months are always low-offering months, but the bills continue nonetheless. Sadly we finished out the 2025-2026 fiscal year \$4,468 under budget in regular receipts. This position is complicated by the fact that the May 17 Assembly approved a budget which calls upon us to stretch in this new fiscal year. Let's pull together and not get stuck far behind our commitments to the ministry of the Gospel. -- Pr Skovgaard

THRIVENT CHOICE OPPORTUNITY: Did you know? Everyone who has a Thrivent Policy now gets \$25 to donate to a charity of their choice (not just certain policies anymore). If you haven't designated your funds, please consider donating them to Trinity Lutheran Classical High School. Funds will be used to cover general operating expenses first, then to fund certain enrichment activities such as field trips to theater and the arts, supplies for the winter drama, art supplies, and more. Thanks in advance for your support!

PICKLEBALL: Upcoming summer dates include 7/26, 8/16, and 8/30. Fall dates coming soon!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CLASSICAL UPDATE

From Headmaster Melvin Beversdorf: For this coming year, I plan on working with the teachers and the leadership team/board of directors to review our strategies for marketing and outreach. I have plans to connect to a local homeschool group during our break after lunch on Tuesdays to build Christian connections and community. I am open to working with any homeschoolers that you may know if they want to connect to Trinity and what we have to offer in some form or capacity. This year, due to size, we will be a ONE House team with reward incentives scheduled to help balance out the rigor and effort that the students put forth every day. We have some dress up days and service projects identified. Furthermore, we will try quarterly CLUB days where teachers and volunteers/ special guests can complement our learning with special talents and activities. This is where the Motor (Automobile) Club, Woodworking Club, Drama Club, Sports Club, (insert YOUR idea here) may find its place in our school year. Please contact me at 262-221-7885 (cell) or head@trinitylutheranclassical.org if you have a CLUB or SERVICE idea/interest to share.

VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE: Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2026, 2:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. One blood donation can save up to 3 lives! Every donation creates a ripple of hope. Make a lifesaving difference today—schedule your appointment: <https://sl1nk.com/jx8e6lf> or contact Rick Ewert: BloodDrive@egl.org / 262-289-9333.



BINGO: Mark your calendar! EGL is having a Bingo Night on Saturday August 15 with food, fun and prizes. Dinner at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall with games to follow. Please watch for Signup Genius online or signup sheet in the back of the church. Hope to see you there!

COFFEE DONATIONS: The money that is donated during the time of fellowship after Church on Sundays is being donated to the signage project. So, be generous!

ALTAR FLOWERS: As a congregation we greatly appreciate having flowers to adorn the altar each week. We currently have openings on August 9, 23, 30 and on September 20 for altar flowers. The cost of the arrangements we receive from Welke's in Elm Grove is \$35. Please contact the church office (info@egl.org or 262-797-2970) if you would like to provide flowers this summer.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: The 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible study with Pr Skovgaard has been faithfully studying and inwardly digesting St Paul's magnum opus -- the letter to the Romans. Due to Synod Convention responsibilities and regional vice president commitments, this Bible study will take a hiatus until after the Labor Day weekend, when we will pick up again at Romans 8:31, with God's declaration that no-thing can separate the Christian from the love of God found in Christ Jesus alone.

AUGUST 8 SERVANT EVENT: Our youth group (open to junior high and high schoolers) will begin the year with a servant event on Saturday, August 8. From 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., we'll meet at and be helping The Economy Center (a thrift store run by Lutheran Counseling & Family Services) to help them organize and prepare for a busy fall season. After that, youth and families are invited to stop by the Tegatz house a few miles away for lunch and ice cream. Please let Pastor Tegatz know if you're planning to attend or have questions!

YOUTH GROUP BIBLE STUDY: Weekly youth group Bible study will begin on Sunday, August 9 from 10:45-11:30 a.m. in the youth room. This Bible study will be offered weekly on Sunday mornings. Pastor Tegatz will begin the year with a short-term study titled "The Gospel in Seven Words."

AUGUST 9 SWD YOUTH RESTART EVENT: The South Wisconsin District's annual ReStart youth event is happening on Sunday, August 9 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Slick City Action Park in Wauwatosa. If you're interested in attending this youth group event, please let Pastor Tegatz or Ben Ewert know by Sunday, July 26 so we can register.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 20 at 9:30 a.m. in the BAAC. The book to be discussed is *The Miracle Among Us – How God's Grace Plays a Role in Healing* written by Dr. Marc Siegel. Cases of patients that have recovered and survived are explored where science and the medical teams cannot explain. Dr. Siegel points to God who is healing as faithful believers pray to Him. We look forward to an interesting discussion. We welcome new members.

KNITTERS WANTED: LWM is in the process of knitting newborn baby hats for the Manitowoc County Pregnancy Center. Patterns and yarn are at the back of the church. Hats are due by September 24. Please sign the sheet so we know who has a bag. Thank you, Linda Hoffmann

COLLEGE-BOUND? Often the Fourth of July marks the start of the countdown to move-in day. Before those young people pack the last box and pull out of the driveway, they need something more than a dorm checklist. They need a church home. Historically, up to 70% of college students stop attending church regularly while away at school. The pressures of a secular university academically, socially, and spiritually can be relentless, and Satan strives to be in their faces during this time. Many students face the first serious challenges to their doctrine, their ethics, and their biblical worldview with little support around them. LCMS U, the official campus ministry network of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, exists precisely for this moment. With over 200 chapters nationwide, LCMS U connects students to Word and Sacrament ministry, surrounds them with fellow Lutherans, and provides the theological "home away from home" they need to not just survive college — but thrive in faith. I invite you to take one simple step: visit <http://swd.lcms.org/campus> and complete the form.

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